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SERIAL NUMBER FILING DATE FIRST NAMED APPLICANT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

887594, 156

08/15/97 US/15/97

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524-2769-0

022850 IM22/0404
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ARTUNIT PAPER NUMBER

171 1711 23

DATE MAILED:

04/04/00

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

Commissioner of Patents

The reply brief filed December 6, 1999 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to R. Sergent at telephone number (703) 308-2982.

RABON SERGENT PRIMARY EXAMINER

R. Sergent

April 1, 2000